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2 Players, 1 Manager Inducted into National Hall of Fame at 2024 Worlds



Sessions 2 and 3 of the 2024 World Championships in Las Vegas hosted Men's 40+, 65-85+ & Women's 40+ along with 3 Hall of Fame inductions and the 3rd annual 90s Game featuring 39 elders of the sport.

2024 Worlds Brings Forth the First Altered Bat 10 Year Suspensions



Bats that fail the bat test at the fields are brought back to the office for another test in a more controlled environment. If a bat fails a second time, it is sent to the manufacture to determine if the bat is altered. 36 bats between sessions 1 and 2 of Worlds have failed at the fields, above.

Softball News Report

The first two altered bats were discovered as a result of Senior

Record 80+ and 85+ Teams Play in Session 2 of the 2024 Worlds

**By Donna McGuire
Softball News Report**

LAS VEGAS - Seventeen divisions crowned champions during the second session of the Senior Softball-USA World Championships being played in the Las Vegas area.

The session featured Hall of Fame inductions, a 90s East/West All-Star game ([please see side story](#)), and 172 teams in the 65+ and older age groups playing on 31 fields at eight ball parks Sept. 16-19.

Softball USA's on-field bat testing program and two players have been suspended for 10 years.

The bats failed a random field test during the Rocky Mountain Championships in Aurora, Colo., in August, then failed a controlled re-test in Sacramento and were sent to a lab for final inspection because they were newer bats.

The lab found both bats – one a Miken Ultra and the other a Miken Big Cat – had been shaved.

The players, one a 70 AA player and the other a 65 AAA player, have appealed their suspensions. Their appeals are being decided by an Appeals Board.

SSUSA established on-field testing standards this year and began random testing at the Eastern and Western Nationals. Older bats that failed the test were marked as illegal and sent back to the owners. Newer bats that failed were sent to the manufacturer's lab to ensure they had not been altered.

"Our goal is to get hot bats out of the game," said Terry Hennessy, SSUSA's chief executive officer. "Players should be very careful not to buy bats from sites that alter bats – or used bats from other players. They are responsible for the bats they swing."

Third Annual 90s Game Honors the Elders of Our Sport



Softball News Report

LAS VEGAS – The elders in the sport from the West took on the



Scrap Iron 5280' of Colorado won their first seeding game against Sacramento Islanders 70, 24-21.

"It's so good to see so many players and families enjoy the games, camaraderie and friendships — an inspiration to many," said Fran Dowell, SSUSA's executive director.

With more and more players continuing to play into their 80s, spectators got to watch 13 teams in the 80+ division and six more teams playing in the 85+ divisions.



Excessive Force 70 (CA) vs. Oregon Crabs 70, 27-26, during a seeding game at Desert Breeze Softball Complex in the Men's 70+ AAA division.

Four teams — all age 75+ or older — won the coveted Triple Grand Slam: Venom of Florida in 75+ Major Plus, Northern Virginia Force in 75+ Major, Maverick Construction of Texas in 80+ Major Plus, and Center for Sight of Florida in 85+ Major.



Results:

Men's 65+ Major Plus: Top-seeded Texas Crush Sixty Fives (photo lower left) capped a 6-0 tournament with a 21-20 championship victory over second-seeded Cal Energy. Crush scored five runs in the bottom of the sixth to take the one-run lead then held Cal Energy scoreless in the open inning. Ted Todd Insurance of Florida finished third. Samurai

oldest players in the East in the Third Annual 90s Game at Big League Dreams on Sept. 16.

Playing five innings in front of one of the largest crowds of the World Championships, the two teams showed some amazing hitting power and inspired the crowd with their love of the game.



Between the two teams' rosters, sixteen 90-year-olds took part in the 3rd annual 90s Game at the 2024 World Championship in Big League Dreams Park, Las Vegas.

One of the standout stars was Ray Newman, 90 of California who helped power the West team to a 22-17 victory. Newman hit a grand slam in the third inning and another home run in the fourth inning.



But the two oldest players perhaps captured the spirit of the event best.

Mike Semieja, 95 of Minnesota, said: "To me, it's about the comradery of players I've known forever who love the game."

And Paul Janke, also 95, and a Hall of Famer from California agreed, "It doesn't matter where players come from, what they believe, or the color of their skin...once they step on the field it means nothing; we are all the same – softball players."

of California took fourth in the four-team division. USA National Championship game: Cal Energy 32 (photo lower right), Ted Todd Insurance 17.



Men's 65+ Major: Ninth-seeded Northwest Stampede (photo below) knocked off the top two seeds during bracket play en route to winning the 22-team division. Stampede defeated Howe Creative Design/The Bank of Delaware 21-17 in the title game after beating the same team 21-11 in the winner's bracket finals. Tex-Ark Legends, which had been seeded 11th, captured third place. The seventh-seeded Minnesota Merchants took fourth. USA National Championship game: New Dawn Awning 19, Howe Creative Design/The Bank 18.



Men's 65+ AAA: Second-seeded Spring Ford of Pennsylvania won seven of its eight bracket games, including a 24-18 and 27-21 double dipping of runner-up So Cal Braves, a California team that had been seeded 21st in the 27-team division. Third-seeded Big Daddy's Donuts of Missouri earned third place. Top-seeded Team Alaska placed fourth. USA National Championship game: Team Alaska 20, Spring Ford 18.



Team Alaska 65 (red and grey jerseys) pose with Spring Ford 65+ (blue and white jerseys) after the USA National Game.

Men's 65+ AA: Ninth-seeded New Beginnings won its first three bracket games, lost the winner's bracket final by one run, and then won the third-place game to force a rematch with the second-seeded Warriors-Imua of Hawaii. New Beginnings double dipped the Hawaiians 13-9 and 10-4 to claim the 12-team division. Top-seeded Lights Out of California won four elimination games to finish third. The eighth-seeded Las Vegas Gamblers won four elimination games to secure fourth in the 12-team division.

Men's 70+ Major Plus: Playing its final season under longtime coach Doug Robbins, top-seeded Timberworks/Suncoast of California (photo below) finished 6-0 and won another in a long list of World titles by stifling Eviro-Vac Marauders of British Columbia, Canada, 17-2 in the title game. Top Gun Over The Edge of California finished third in the three-team division. USA National Champion: Timberworks/Suncoast.



One of the two eldest players of the 90s Game, Paul O. Janke, 95-years-old of Orange, Cali. helps his 90s West Team win the 3rd annual 90s Game, 22-17.

(Look for the full story in the Winter Magazine Edition of Senior Softball News.)

2 Players, 1 Manager Inducted into National Hall of Fame at 2024 Worlds



An Honor Guard from Rancho High School in Las Vegas performed during the National Hall of Fame inductions at Big League Dream, Las Vegas.

Softball News Report

LAS VEGAS – Three inspiring people were inducted into the National Senior Softball Hall of Fame during Session 2 Opening Ceremonies here on Sept. 16.

Gary Robertson, 67, of Modesto, Calif., who plays with Cal Energy 65 Major-Plus in Sacramento, was inducted in the Player Category. Robertson has won the last eight out of 10 SSUSA World Championships at the Major Plus level and has received many All-Tournament and MVP selections along the way.

Eddie Glover, 87, from Conway, Ark.. was inducted in the Pioneer Player category. Glover, who plays with Midwest Driving School



Men's 70+ Major: The 11th-seeded Minnesota River Bats (photo below) got on a roll in bracket play, winning its five games by a 10-run average. The River Bats knocked off fifth-seeded R&R 70s of California 22-11 in the finale. Fourth-seeded Scrap Iron High Octane won four elimination games and placed third. The 15th-seeded KC Kids won four elimination games to finish fourth in the 19-team division. USA National Championship game: New Dawn Awning Reds of California 18, Pill & Pill of West Virginia 9.



Men's 70+ AAA: Fourth-seeded Majestic of California (photo below) lost the first title game 20-6 to second-seeded Team Fire/Grey Sox of Washington then rebounded to win the "if needed" title game 21-12. Majestic led the entire way. The Oregon Crabs, which had been seeded last in the 22-team division, placed third. W.E. Ruth Realty of Washington nabbed fourth place. USA National Champion: Team Fire/Grey Sox.



Men's 70+ AA: Top-seeded New Mexico Boomers finished 6-0, gave up an average of only nine runs per game, and defeated second-seeded Proton/Spikes of Washington 17-8 in the championship game. The Boomers held Proton/Spikes scoreless four innings in a row. The sixth-seeded Minnesota Lumberjacks nabbed third place in the 13-team division. Third-seeded Triple 2 of Texas placed fourth.

Antiques 85s, is known as pinpoint softball pitcher and versatile all-around player, has won several championships in SSUSA, SPA, NSA and in the Midwest.

Dick Anderson, 92, of St. Anthony, Minn., was inducted in the Pioneer Manager category. An intense competitor, Anderson has managed and played on 24 National and World Championship teams since starting senior ball in 1993. He was instrumental in the national creation of the 80 division in 2010, the 85 division in 2015 and the 90 division in 2022.



Left to right: Eddie Glover, Gary Robertson and Dick Anderson.

The National Senior Softball Hall of Fame was founded by the nine national Softball Associations in 1999 to recognize those people who have contributed to the sport in extraordinary ways... as players, managers, umpires or directors.



New Mexico Boomers (dark blue) and Proton/Spikes (light blue) together.

Men's 75+ Major Plus: Top-seeded Venom of Florida (photo lower left) scored six runs in the bottom of the open inning for a 25-24 championship victory, which also earned Venom its third consecutive Triple Grand Slam. Playing its third straight game on turf, second-seeded Omen of California (photo lower right) scored eight in the top of the open inning before it found itself snake-bit in the bottom half. R&R of California placed third in the five-team division. Enviro-Vac Marauders of British Columbia, Canada, took fourth. USA National Championship: Venom 24, Omen 16.



Men's 75+ Major: Top-seeded and unbeaten Northern Virginia Force (photo below) trailed for only two innings in the title game before pulling away for a 20-12 victory over third-seeded SoCal Gusto. That victory gave Northern Virginia Force a Triple Grand Slam. Fourth-seeded Team Minnesota finished third in the nine-team bracket. Second-seeded Last Call of Nevada placed fourth. USA National Championship game: Northern Virginia Force 21, Last Call 19.



Men's 75+ AAA: The fifth-seeded Codgers of Idaho (photo below) fell behind by 13 runs in the championship game against the third-seeded San Antonio Silver Streaks then rallied for 14 runs in the bottom of the open inning to win 21-20. The Codgers finished 7-1 overall while the Silver Streaks went 5-2. The Minnesota Masters finished third in the 12-team division. Triple Play of California took fourth. USA National Champion: Triple Play.



Men's 75+ AA: Playing the best-of-three, the Minnesota Lumberjacks ([photo below](#)) swept the Top Gun Olde Dawgs of California 16-14 and 15-10 to win the title. The Lumberjacks finished 4-1 overall.



Men's 80+ Major Plus: Second-seeded Maverick Construction of Texas ([photo below](#)) knocked off top-seeded Omen of California 12-9 in the "if needed" title game after losing the first championship game 14-8. That earned Maverick Construction the Triple Grand Slam. The Sidewinders of Arizona finished third in the three-team bracket. USA National Champion: Maverick Construction.

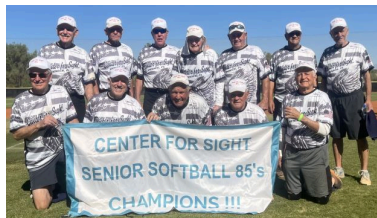


Men's 80+ Major: Top-seeded Scrap Iron 80 Proof never trailed as it defeated second-seeded Top Gun 80 Gold of California 14-5 to win the four-team division and finish 6-0. Ho'oikaika of Hawaii took third place, and Texas Stallions finished fourth.

Men's 80 + AAA: The top-seeded B.C. Seniors of British Columbia, Canada, ([photo below](#)), put together an unbeaten World Championships in solid fashion, winning several games by double digits before handling the second-seeded Minnesota Masters 19-12 in the championship game. The Chicago Gray Sox of Illinois finished third in the six-team division.



Men's 85+ Major: In what has become an annual rivalry, Center For Sight of Florida (photo lower left) and Top Gun Blue Angels 85 (photo lower right) played each other four times in the tournament, with Center For Sight winning three, including the two most important games: the USA National Championship and the SSUSA World Championship — which also gave Center For Sight the Triple Grand Slam. The Blue Angels forced an “if needed” title game by defeating the Floridians 16-13 in the first championship game. Center For Sight captured the second one 15-13. Third place in the three-team division went to the Scrap Iron 85 Legends. USA National Championship game: Center For Sight 24, Top Gun Blue Angels 19.



Men's 85+ AAA: The top-seeded Midwest Driving School Antiques of Kansas (photo below) capped a 4-1 tournament with a 16-1 championship victory over second-seeded Team Rehabilitation of Minnesota. The Antiques' only loss happened in pool play, and it was by one run to the 85+ Major champs Center For Sight. The New York Statesmen finished third in the three-team division.



Only 1 Triple Grand Slam Won in Competitive Session 3 of 2024 Worlds

**By Donna McGuire
Softball News Report**

LAS VEGAS - Two undefeated teams, one Triple Grand Slam and a raft of one-run games highlighted the third session of the Senior Softball-USA World Championships being played at Las Vegas-area softball diamonds.

The three-day session drew 134 teams of 40+ women and men to the desert city, where temperatures climbed back into the 90s after second-session teams had enjoyed mild weather. The 40s played nearly 435 games from Sept. 20-22.



67 Women's team will play in the 2024 World Championships between sessions 3 and 4, not including the International Co-Ed teams.

"The 40-Masters divisions represent the future of Senior Softball, and what we witnessed over the past three days guarantees that future is indeed bright," said Dave Dowell, a tournament director and SSUSA's master scheduler. "Their pace of play and skill level are at an impressive all-time high. Thrilling games, many won in the last at-bat, were the norm. What a great show."

To accommodate the massive 57-team Men's Major division, Dowell broke the teams into four pods after seeding games. The survivors from Saturday play came together at Big League Dreams for an exciting Sunday finish.

With a final two-run victory, Supreme 40s of California captured the session's only Triple Grand Slam award, which requires excellent play across multiple events. Supreme won the Men's 40+ Major Western National Championships in early August, then defeated Sake of Maryland during the USA National Game on the first day of World Championship play. Supreme then triumphed during a fiercely contested "if needed" title game.

The women's divisions, meanwhile, produced the only unbeaten teams of the third session: the Carolina Redz of North Carolina in the Major division and the Arizona Desert Belles in the AA division.



Director, Gayle Collins of Florida, presents Championships Awards and congratulations to Cali Freak Show 40, of the Women's 40+ AAA division.

Results:

Women's 40+ Masters Major: Fourth-seeded Carolina Redz from North Carolina (photo below) outscored its opponents 120-72, won all seven games it played and captured the championship of the 15-team division with a 14-10 victory over 10th-seeded Broken Dollz of California. Third-seeded TABU of California finished third after rallying for four runs in the bottom of the seventh to win the fourth-place game. Fifth-seeded Firestarter Oldies of Washington earned fourth place. USA National Championship game: Royal-T Real Estate/The LaFlamme Group of Washington 8, Vintage of New Jersey 7.



Women's 40+ Masters AAA: Cali Freak Show 40 of California (photo lower left) recovered from a 0-2 start in pool play to win it all. Seeded 20th overall out of 29 teams, Cali defeated five higher seeded teams in bracket play before losing Sunday morning 14-3 to the overall third seed, Ol' D BYBs of Oregon, in the first title game. In the second title game, Cali took the lead for good in the sixth inning en route to a 15-10 victory. Fireballs of Massachusetts, which had been the overall second seed, placed third. Eat It OG Babes of California, the overall 21st seed, lost its first three tournament games before winning six elimination games in a row to finish fourth. USA National Championship game: Fireballs 19, (photo lower right), TST of California 18.



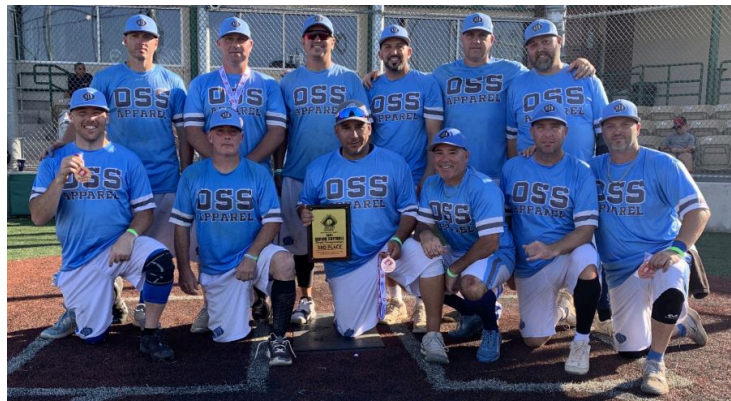
Women's 40+ Masters AA: The top-seeded Arizona Desert Belles capped a 6-0 tournament with an 11-4 championship game victory over second-seeded Guam Team SOTTA. Isla of Guam (photo below) finished third in the three-team division.



Men's 40+ Major Plus: The fifth-seeded Arizona Sidewinders ([photo lower left](#)) started 1-1 in pool play before putting together a perfect run through the 13-team bracket. The Sidewinders won bracket games by scores of 29-14, 29-28, 23-22, 19-15 and 28-23, with the final triumph coming over seventh-seeded Killman's/Lewis Lawn/DeMarini of North Carolina in the title game. Killman's defeated the top two seeds before finishing second. Top-seeded Proton Sports/Legacy Glove Co./JK of California ([photo lower right](#)) placed third. Twelfth-seeded Front Row/MVP Sports of Texas finished fourth. USA National Championship Game: Proton Sports/Legacy Glove Co./JK 28, Suncoast Adidas 40s of Florida 19.

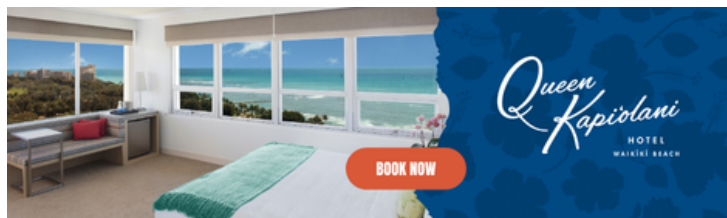


Men's 40+ Major: It took two title games but Supreme 40s of California finally secured the championship and a Triple Grand Slam with a 25-23 "if needed" game victory over runner-up Bob Johnson/Roc Nation of New York, which won the first championship game 25-13. With 57 teams in this division, the teams were seeded after pool play into four pods. Supreme had been the top seed in Pod A while Roc Nation had been the ninth seed in Pod D. After being seeded fourth in Pod C, OSS Apparel of Rhode Island ([photo below](#)) finished third overall. Cheap Suits/Republic Realty of California, which had been seeded third in Pod B, captured fourth place overall. USA National Championship Game: Supreme 25, Sake of Maryland 20.



Men's 40+ AAA: After a 1-1 start in pool play, 10th-seeded Unloaded of California won five consecutive bracket games, including two by one run, to claim the title of the 20-team division. In a tight championship game, Unloaded took its final one-run lead in the bottom of the sixth inning and held on for a 20-19 victory over 11th-seeded Toda Madre of Arizona. Top-seeded GTR of Oregon finished third. Y'All Next of Maryland won six elimination bracket games to place fourth. USA National Championship game: GTR 22, Flatline 40 of Virginia 19.

Stay At SSUSAs Official Hawaiian Resort Hotel



Contact Information:
Senior Softball USA
9823 Old Winery Place, Suite 12
916-326-5303
info@seniorsoftball.com